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SALT LAKE CITY, FEB. 13, 1901.

SALT LAKE'S MORTALITY.

One very gratifying bit of information in the official report, made by Mayor Ezra Thompson to the City Council, is the small mortality for the year 1900. The percentage of deaths is lower for that year than for any of the ten years preceding. It is given as 11.34 in 1900, while in the preceding years named it ranged from 13.69 to 34.58.

In view of the attempts to alarm the country as to the health situation here, these figures concerning Salt Lake City, furnished by the Mayor, are of great value, and put the matter in a very different light to that presented in the false reports so injurious to business.

There are many other points in the Mayor's report that are well worthy of public consideration. The statistics furnished are official, and may be used for reference as occasion requires, but the figures as to the percentage of deaths last year, compared with previous years, are so marked and favorable as to cause surprise as well as pleasure, when we think of the alarms that have been raised without just occasion.

The evil impression that has been created could surely be removed by this official report, and the general public ought to be informed of the fact that the death rate of Salt Lake City, for the last year of the nineteenth century, was but a little over 11 per cent of the population, a gratifying decrease in the list of mortality for a decade. The Mayor's report will be found in full in another part of this issue of the Deseret News.

OLD STORIES RETOLD.

"The Mormon Elders are infesting the northern section of the city formerly known as Lansingburgh. They introduce themselves as 'ministers of the Gospel,' but are spied when their identity is discovered or suspected. Strange men who call at houses under the pretext that they are Gospel advocates, deserve scant courtesy. This is not the method adopted by reputable clergymen."

The foregoing is from the Troy, N. Y., Press, which is unintentionally aiding our missionaries in that part of the country by that kind of advertising. It is also helping the cause by the publication of the "serial story," which every few days appears in its columns, under the title of "Origin, Rise and Progress of Mormonism." The Press imagines it is printing something new, while as a matter of fact it is all a reproduction of old stories, which the writer of the book, published in 1867, had culled from much earlier works of the kind, giving some color to them by stating that he was a resident of Palmyra, New York, when the Prophet Joseph Smith and his parents lived there.

We could furnish the Press with a long list of such works, but a few will suffice. The same tales about the early life of the Prophet Joseph are related therein, and the same perversions of "Mormon" beliefs are made. In a work called "The Mormons," by Mayhew, published in London in 1852, fifteen years before the T. U. book appeared, these stories can be found. Mayhew's book was plagiarized by one Joseph A. Smucker, and published under his name in Philadelphia as an original work. But these had been preceded by Henry Caswell's book, "The Prophet of the Nineteenth Century," published in 1843 in London. That by John C. Bennett in Boston in 1842; also by "Mormonism in All Ages," by Prof. J. B. Turner, New York, 1842, and that by William Harris in Warsaw, Illinois, in 1841, and called "Mormonism Portrayed."

But all these and many more were taken chiefly from "Mormonism Unveiled," by E. D. Howe, published in 1835. Some of the writers give credit to Howe, others take whole pages from his work as if they were original with the copyists. And it will be found that Tucker has done the same, in the book now being copied, piecemeal, by the Troy N. Y., Press as though it was rare, and unique, and startling. These old-told tales are not really substantiated by their frequent repetition, but put one in mind of the notions that obtained in Rome about the beliefs and doings of the early Christians as related in "Quo Vadis."

Now as to the course pursued by the Elders in the neighborhood of Troy. The Press has not yet been able, in response to the request of the Deseret News, to give any particulars of misconduct on the part of our missionaries. They go from house to house, very likely, distributing tracts, which nobody is obliged to receive or read, and if they meet with the discourtesy described by the Press and recommended to its readers, it only shows how far behind in politeness and tolerance the Trojans are to the "Mormons," who are taught to treat even their enemies with civility and forbearance.

It is true, doubtless, that the methods employed by the Elders to spread the Gospel are different to those adopted by the clergymen of the different sects. A missionary who goes out among strangers without purse or scrip, and receives no pay for his labors, is different to a salaried preacher, who has an assured congregation and support.

But he is in a similar condition and uses similar methods to those of the disciples of the Christ, when introducing His Gospel under His immediate instructions, at the opening of the Christian era.

We trust that, after a while, the Press will become a little fairer and kinder in its spirit, and will learn that old stories about the boyhood and history of Joseph Smith, are no guide to the doctrines he taught. And perhaps by thinking of the reputation that the Savior obtained when on earth, through the misrepresentations of His religious enemies, the Troy editor may reason out the idea, that latter-day doctrines are not to be judged by defamatory tales about their promulgators, any more than the teachings of the early Apostles were to be tested by the reports that came from those who not only closed their doors but their ears against them.

Meanwhile we hope our brethren will be encouraged, to go on with the work of warning the people of Troy concerning the judgments that are impending, and of preaching the Gospel by the Spirit of God, regardless of the threats of opponents and the discourtesy of professedly "Christian" writers and readers. The truth will triumph and falsehood will fail.

TRUSTS AND SOCIALISM.

Mr. Monnett, ex-attorney-general of Ohio, suggests, in the New York World, that the combination of three of the greatest producers of raw material, and of seven of the producers of the finished product of the steel industries, will blaze the way for governmental ownership of the transportation companies, and arouse among laboring men a demand for co-operation.

He bases this supposition on the fact that such combinations cannot exist without levying upon consumers an unnatural tax, by excessive charges for the product. And this will affect everybody, from the woman that uses a pot or kettle, to the patron of the railroad or street car. He predicts that the combine will speedily array the great middle class against it, and that it will fall of its own weight.

The statement is not without interest, particularly if taken in connection with the fact that the ranks of socialists are filling up rapidly, as new industrial combinations are being created. The United States, however, is not the only country, where such "trusts" flourish. Mr. Harmsworth says Great Britain is plastered over with them. They are the natural outgrowth of prevailing industrial conditions. And it is not impossible that the process of combining will continue, until there is practically but one great combine, and if that time ever comes, it is clear enough that the control must be vested in the government.

It can hardly be supposed that this consummation is immediately at hand. Such an order of things—as has been pointed out by John Stuart Mill—requires in the great mass of people qualities, both moral and intellectual, that must be acquired and tested before they can be put to practical use. In the ancient Hebrew state government control prevailed to the extent that property in lands that might change hands, was returned and redistributed every fifth year; at that time debts were also wiped out, and slaves set free. But in modern times other ideas of the rights of individuals have prevailed, and any return to common control of private interests must of necessity be slow, even if the desirability of it were admitted. The many failures in communism, co-operation, socialistic enterprises are so many evidences of the gigantic work before those who desire a radical change in the present industrial, economic and social conditions of the world.

AN INDIAN RELIC.

One George U. S. Hovey, of White Church, Kan., is said to have among his collection of Indian relics, a small stone book which he found near the three Indian mounds in Quindaro township, Wyandotte. It is made of red pipestone clay. It is about three inches long, two inches wide and one inch thick.

The story, as told by Mr. Hovey in the Toledo Blade, is this:

"Near the mounds where the book was found was the site of a prehistoric town. Here men dwelt for many years, with their wives and children, and here are to be found in great numbers their implements for war and the chase. We know their workshops from the flint, chips and spalls. Thousands of arrow heads have been found, and many curving-stone knives, called by the Smithsonian professors 'hump-backed knives.' Indicate that there were also located there tanneries. The extent of the ground, the many loads of flint removed since the place has been known to the whites, all show that it was a town of considerable importance. The number of these ancient town sites and mounds within the limits of Wyandotte county, makes it not a rash assertion to say that 1,000 years ago enough people lived here to make a great city."

As to the book his explanation is that when the first missionaries came among the Indians, a certain medicine man perceived that they always preached from a book, and he concluded that the book was the secret of their influence over the people. So he made a book of stone, and preached from it. He told them what this Indian "Bible" contained about traders who would come and who would take their furs in exchange for freewater, asking them at all times crazy loads of men who would come with weapons of fire that made a great noise and would kill and scare away all the game. Then he told of many more, while people who would come and who would want their land, then great troubles and quarrels, and finally of white warriors who would kill and drive all the Indians away."

So powerful were the sermons of this medicine man, that he was reinstated among his people, turning many away from following the missionaries.

This, Mr. Hovey says, is a tradition. The interesting question is whether the stone book really is a specimen of very ancient literature, or whether it is a hoax perpetrated by a clever medicine man. It is conceivable that the missionaries referred to would regard it as a hoax, and that the "tradition," as to that point, would originate with them, just as the most precious Maya documents came to be looked upon as idol-

atrous abominations, on the testimony of fanatical Spanish monks.

It is quite certain that the medicine man, if he spoke as attributed to him by tradition, had the spirit of prophecy. For, fire water and fire weapons, great troubles and quarrels have certainly followed the path of the missionaries, until today there is but a remnant left of the native races. If an Indian uttered this prophecy centuries ago, that is as remarkable as the finding of a book written on clay tablets thousands of years ago and containing similar predictions, would be.

MEN AND WOMEN.

The statement made some time ago by a Colorado critic of woman suffrage, to the effect that it had proved "an un-mixed evil" is widely commented on. A contributor to the Independent takes a rather pessimistic view. He says:

"If women are to have the same education and ideas, the same employments, the same sports, the same political life, as the men, their thoughts and feelings, their tastes and manners, and even their features and figures, will gradually approximate those of the men. Masculinity will then once more assert itself triumphantly, as it did in the days of savagery, and our women will ultimately be advanced to the position of the squaws, concerning whom we read in Schoolcraft that, on account of the hard work they had to perform, they were universally masculine in appearance, without one soft blandishment to render them desirable or lovely."

It can probably not be denied that masculine occupation and interests have a tendency to efface the special feminine beauty with which woman has been endowed by nature. At least this appears to be the fact in oriental countries. There the poorer classes of women are often condemned to hard labor. They will carry the water, often long distances, attend to all the duties in the house, and perhaps even help the donkey, or the cow, to pull the plow in the field in the spring. The result after a few years of toil is seen in distorted features and figures, almost painful to look upon. On the other hand in the same countries, the women of the upper classes, whose wants are all supplied, and who are attended by the slaves, present types of womanhood, almost perfect. These facts appear to bear out the surmises of the writer in the Independent.

It may be said, however, that there is no probability of the American woman, as a rule, ever becoming the slave of masculine education and ideals, sports, occupations and aspirations to the extent that she will endanger her womanly charms. A few may do so. But the majority will have sense enough to follow the path clearly indicated by the Supreme Intelligence, to which both man and woman owes existence, well knowing that the plans laid by God cannot be improved upon by mortal man. American womanhood is in no particular danger from the possible eccentricities of a few. There may be masculine women, as there are feminine men. But these are exceptions, and no menace to American womanhood and manhood.

When Edward opens parliament that will close the royal show for a time.

"Weak minds wash, great minds will," says a Chicago philosopher. Not always. Frequently great minds won't.

It may be that the Wedded Maid of Wichita goes to Chicago to inaugurate a sympathetic strike with her hatcher.

It wouldn't be wise for the Pall Mall optimists to get up a fete to commemorate the close of hostilities in South Africa just yet awhile.

It costs the United States \$223 a piece for its soldiers as against \$27 for Germany and \$22 for France. They come high but we must have them.

The sheep owners might furnish their herders with Spenser's Shepherd's Calendar. It would help them to while away the time if it gave them no aid in telling the day of the month.

Mrs. Nattson has made a great tactical mistake. She has gone to Chicago, and Chicago is so big a maelstrom that she has been swallowed up. How vast is the difference between fame and notoriety.

The State is to have a fish hatchery. It will be the duty of the fish and game warden to have a parental care over the fish and see that the big ones do not gobble up the little ones as they do in the great social and political swim.

It is now claimed that the closing of the army cantens has caused an increase of drunkenness among the soldiers who are consuming alcohol in the disguise of various kinds of "remedies." Temperance reformers do not always conduct their work with temperance.

It appears that there is a cocking main at Murray and that the owners make money and the spectators of the fights have fine times. Cock-fighting has been abolished in the Philippines, and should be in Utah; and would be if sec. 454 of the compiled laws of 1895, which makes it a misdemeanor, were enforced.

The country has just celebrated Lincoln's birthday. He was in every sense of the word a great man, yet the country is filled with men who deem themselves equally as great did but opportunity present itself to them. But opportunity does not present itself, so these village Lincolns will never be known.

We have received a well written communication from a non-"Mormon" in Frisco in regard to the recent senatorial election. We are in full accord with his liberal sentiments, but believe that it would not accomplish any good purpose, just now, to revive what may be numbered as a "dead issue." Our correspondent will please accept our thanks for his sensible communication.

It appears that the President has tendered Ambassador Choate a place in his cabinet, that of attorney-general, and that he has declined the tender. This is a matter of regret, for it is a distinct loss to the public. His great eminence as a lawyer would lend a distinction and weight to the office that it has too rarely enjoyed. It may be said of Mr. Choate that he stands at the head of the American bar today

and that the people cannot have his services in the first legal office under the government is a great loss to them.

The great State of Ohio is making much ado about nothing in all the "splurge" over the proposed Jeffries-Rublin fight. Any chief of police or sheriff who really has the desire to prevent it and maintain the majesty of the law, given a dozen efficient assistants, can easily stop it. To get regiments of troops ready as though a foreign army were invading the State is simply ridiculous. They are no more necessary to prevent the fight than it is necessary to have a cannon to kill a cat. It looks very much like gubernatorial opera bouffe.

A rather comical legislative proposition was introduced the other day in the New York legislature. The bill provides that books, newspapers or serial literature shall not be published in type smaller than eight point, of which the lower case alphabet measures less than fourteen ems. The lines of type must be separated by at least two-point leads. A bill to prescribe the color of the ink and the quality of the paper will be next in order. And then something to indicate what style of coats is legal and illegal, and when to eat and what to take at the meals. The latter, it will be observed, might be considered necessary on sanitary grounds.

We have received from Fortimer and Averill of Los Angeles, California, a panoramic view of the "City of the Angels," which is indeed "a thing of beauty," and when framed will prove "a joy for ever," to all who love art and admire the picturesque. The sky must have been particularly clear when this scene was photographed from Bunker Hill, and the artists have executed the work of reproduction in the very finest style. Salt Lake is interested in the growth of Los Angeles and we hope the two cities will soon be joined by bands of steel. Our friends here will do well to secure copies of this panoramic engraving, which is worthy a place in public buildings and private homes.

AS TO PUGILISM.

Chicago News.

Patrons of the "manly sport" announce a victory. Gov. Yates said that they should not violate the laws of Illinois and every sense of public decency to have a prize-fight on Illinois ground. The executive has consented to have the fight. The "sport" were forbidden to hold the fight in the place advertised. They tried Wisconsin and found there a governor equally determined. Then, by a brilliant stratagem, they adjourned to a hamlet in this State and had their fight. This is said to have been a victory, inasmuch as the fight occurred. But what will the governor do now? Obviously it lies within his power to have the last laugh. The statutes do not necessarily fail because the pugilists dodged a sheriff. There is a before and after. The fight occurred, and if not the principals, then the referee and many of the accessories are still within reach of the law.

Chicago Record.

The stand taken by Gov. Nash of Ohio in opposing prize-fights, and the action of Gov. Yates in declaring against similar exhibitions in this State, credit upon these officials. Under one plea or another some fight-promoters have found it possible in recent years to evade the letter of the law, finding technical warrant for their "scientific boxing exhibitions." Enough patronage make the ventures pay has been forthcoming, but as a rule the great mass of the people in every State of the Union are now firmly opposed to the practice. The public's moral sense as to what constitutes brutality has been educated past the point where it will tolerate professional "dist-fighting," no matter under what guise it appears. Gov. Nash and Gov. Yates are again giving recognition to a principle which has been recognized repeatedly of late years by our governors from New York to California.

New York Evening Sun.

Perhaps Gov. Nash may have his hands tied by a technicality, but if the bout were to take place and the principals to engage in a prize-fight they would expose themselves to arrest, trial and punishment. Knowing this, they would spar with circumspection and be very nice to each other. It would in no sense be a prize-fight, but the governor, notwithstanding his defeat by the statute law, would have killed the professional boxing business in Ohio. The purchasers of tickets at high prices would grumble, of course, and they would have cause to grumble. At the same time they would have helped out the Saengerfest association—blissful consolation. But can the association afford to take their money if Gov. Nash declares his opposition to the affair and sees his best endeavor to prevent it? It would be useless to pass round the hat.

San Francisco Chronicle.

Gov. Nash of Ohio appears to be a man of decided opinions who cannot be moved from his position that the prize-fight between Jeffries and Rublin shall not take place in Cincinnati. The result is that the Saengerfest Athletic association, which has been counting on the governor's consent, will lose a large sum of money as all preparations for the fight will be wasted, while the managers of the two pugilists will also be heavy losers. It is evident that Old Mexico must be chosen for the scene of the next prize-fight, as no State can afford to have the discredit of permitting a fight within its borders.

Los Angeles Times.

If Gov. Nash stands firm, in his determination to keep down prize-fighting, he will have raised Ohio in the scale of civilization several degrees. While we believe California's big fighter is as good a fellow as any in the "profession," yet we believe the profession all wrong and unworthy of our civilized country.

Chicago Times-Herald.

If the court should decide that the association may bring off the fight it will precipitate a clash between State authority and the court, in which the governor will have the solid backing of the decent and law-abiding elements of Ohio citizenship. In ordinary emergencies of this character Gov. Nash would doubtless follow the example of Gov. Roosevelt in holding the mayor of Cincinnati responsible for the felony. But here the fight advertised to the country as a "fight for the championship of the world" backed by the directors of a Saengerfest association and abetted by the mayor who regards it as a clever expedient to make up a deficit for which the city is partly responsible.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Among the contents of the current number of Harper's Weekly, we notice "The Government Printing Office," Francis E. Leupp; "The Streets of New York at Night," "The British in the South Pacific," photographs; "Pictorial Review of the Life of King Edward VII.," "Is the Philippine Policy of the Administration Just?" No. by Mark Twain; Yes, by John

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A beautiful line of Etoule du Nord Gingham, in 10-yard Dress Lengths, will go in this Sale, per piece, at— <b>One Dollar</b>	We have a large and well selected stock of <b>New Dimities, Lawns and Batistes,</b>	A Special line of Cordettes, worth 162-3c, will go this week at... <b>10c Per Yard.</b>
All Amoskeag Apron Gingham, reduced to <b>6c Per Yard</b>	At the following prices: All 10c materials in Sale at... <b>8½c</b> All 12½c materials in Sale at... <b>10c</b> All 15c materials in Sale at... <b>12c</b> All 20c materials in Sale at... <b>16½c</b> All 25c materials in Sale at... <b>20c</b>	Special Price on all Calicos, 5c Per Yard.
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You can have your choice of these for fifty cents each.  
There were sixty-six dozen four-in-hands, some narrow reversibles, others the flowing end style.  
These are all regular 50c value.  
You can have your choice for twenty-five cents.  
Then the balance of the lot was made up of bows.

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